

health care benefits of federal employees and retirees as well as their spouses and survivors. Dulles Chapter 1241 is one of more than 1600 NARFE chapters nationwide.

The Charter for Chapter 1241 was issued June 21, 1972. At that time, there were 9 members. Today, the Chapter membership has grown to approximately 350 members with another 400 national members in the Dulles jurisdiction. Chapter members have had a strong voice in many national and local legislative issues affecting federal retirees, senior citizens, and the public at large. In 2015, following the dissolution of the Leesburg Chapter, the Dulles Chapter welcomed many of these federal employees and retirees into their ranks with open arms. Chapter 1241 has worked from their founding to represent federal employees, but also to better their community.

This chapter has supported Alzheimer's research for many years through regular drawings, the "Red Pot" for monthly donations, and the Alzheimer's Christmas Challenge. Additionally, the Dulles chapter has sponsored several food drives for Fairfax County food pantries, collecting resources for those who have been hit the hardest by misfortune. Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Dulles Chapter has seen its share of hardship, but these federal employees have still banded together to ensure that everyone's needs are met.

Over the years, members have also participated in health and community fairs, auto shows, and other outreach activities. Additionally, many members have been active leaders in the Virginia Federation of NARFE. These accomplished federal employees have earned the attention and praise of numerous bodies, from Virginia state legislators to NARFE national leaders, as well as travel, medical, insurance, tax, and law enforcement experts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Dulles Chapter 1241 for 50 years of dedicated service to Northern Virginia's federal employees. These individuals are the lifeblood of our federal government, and I am grateful for their service and proud to represent such outstanding individuals. I wish them the best for their anniversary, and continued success in future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY HUGH ASHFORD ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise as Chair of the Appropriations Committee, and on behalf of the Members of the Committee, and its staff, to pay tribute to Jeffrey "Jeff" Ashford as he retires following nearly 4 decades of government service, including over 25 years with the House Appropriations Committee.

Jeff began his career in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and later joined the International Security Affairs Branch of the International Affairs Division within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where he developed and oversaw security assistance and arms control budgets and programs.

Later, after serving the HM Treasury in London for 2 years, Jeff returned to OMB, this time within the State-USIA Branch where he developed and oversaw the budget for several State Department programs.

Jeff came home to the House Appropriations Committee in 1997, first serving on the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee. He led the Committee's work on Treasury's law enforcement efforts, drug programs, and personnel agencies. In 2003, Jeff took on the difficult task of working for the newly established Subcommittee on Homeland Security. Jeff's work was particularly important in ensuring that the new programs, tasked with protecting the American people, were properly funded and that the Committee's priorities were considered. He also helped ensure that the Committee exercised strong and responsible oversight over the Department of Homeland Security, especially during a complicated period of transition.

Since 2013, Jeff has served on the staff of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies subcommittee. Jeff has helped the Committee and its Members effectively navigate, negotiate, and resolve politically-sensitive issues. His profound technical knowledge of the Justice Department, including its law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and prisons and the Civil Rights and National Security divisions, has benefited the Committee greatly and ensured the Department works most effectively for the American people.

Jeff's tenacious work ethic and his expert knowledge of the issues under our Committee's jurisdiction have made him an unparalleled asset to the committee. Even during trying circumstances, Jeff always brings with him unfailing good humor and even keel. His hard work has made our government work better and our Congress and this Committee stronger. His dedication to this body and to the American people have made him a truly unique and irreplaceable asset.

I speak for myself and all Members of the Committee in saying we will miss Jeff's incredible understanding of the federal budget and his hard work and dedication greatly.

I am excited for what the future holds for Jeff and wish him, his wife Lori, and his children Chloe and Sylvia the very best. Congratulations on a wonderful career. Our Nation and this body will miss Jeff and are deeply thankful to him for his leadership.

ELMER BEACH: LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember a longtime constituent, Elmer Beach.

Elmer passed away on December 3, 2022, and he left behind a legacy of service to our Nation. At 100 years of age, Elmer had lived a full life as a member of the "Greatest Generation." He served during World War II as a proud U.S. Marine. He saw action in Guam, Bougainville, and Guadalcanal. And bore a scar on his leg from a Japanese dagger on Iwo Jima. He didn't talk about his service. But Elmer was more than a warrior. He was a father of 7 and a loving husband.

He was kind, humble, and never complained—and he never stopped loving his country.

ADDRESSING THE PEOPLE'S HOUSE ONE FINAL TIME

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the People's House for one final time.

While it's hard to sum up all the lessons that I've learned over the past 10 years as a Member of Congress and 16 years as a district staffer, I'd like to take the opportunity to say thanks.

I thank the people of the 13th District of Illinois for allowing me the honor to represent them. Over the years we've been able to achieve some big wins for hardworking families throughout our district, including successfully updating the tax code by passing the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, making regulatory reforms to speed up federal highway projects and save taxpayer dollars through my One Federal Decision Act, and the passage of the Small Community Transit Improvement Act to help secure additional federal transit dollars for downstate Illinois communities that rely on transit systems.

It's also been a pleasure to fight on behalf of our farmers by helping to write two farm bills that included provisions to strengthen critical farm programs and increase federal support for agricultural research.

We also helped secure wins for our military over the years in the annual National Defense Authorization Act, and for our veterans through the passage of important bills like the Hire More Heroes Act—my bill to help small businesses hire veterans by amending Obamacare.

I'm also proud of the work we've done to address the student loan crisis, including the passage of the Employer Participation in Repayment Act, legislation I wrote to create a unique public-private partnership.

We've fought for families, who like my own, have fought cancer. Drawing inspiration from my wife Shannon, we advocated for increased federal funding into cancer research and access to cancer treatment and prevention. We passed my bipartisan Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act, which was signed into law in 2020, to decrease colorectal cancer deaths by increasing cancer screenings.

These wins were made possible thanks to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who were willing to work together to help make life better for our constituents back home. I also thank my district and D.C. staff who served in the trenches alongside me during some of these tough legislative fights.

I also want to thank my incredible team at the Committee on House Administration, where I've had the honor to serve as the Ranking Member. We've been able to navigate unprecedented times together, including the House's continuity of operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 shutdown of D.C. as the House shifted to full telework. We understood that no matter the circumstances,

the American people deserve an accessible and transparent government. That's why we helped ensure the safe reopening of several of our oversight entities, including the Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution museums, and the National Gallery of Art, and we set the stage for a full reopening of the People's House come the 118th Congress under a Republican-led Majority.

We also experienced some dark times together, including one of the biggest security failures that the U.S. Capitol has ever experienced on January 6, 2021. Despite some in Congress using this attack to turn Capitol security into a partisan exercise, we remained focused on our oversight responsibilities and investigated why the complex was left so vulnerable that day. As a result, we were able to successfully push the U.S. Capitol Police Board into greater compliance with the 2017 Government Accountability Office (GAO) Report, creating important reforms to the Board. Additionally, we developed recommendations that the next Congress can implement to ensure our rank-and-file officers, who saved my life that day and on a baseball field in 2017, are never put in that terrible position again.

This leads me to another very important thanks, which is to our brave Capitol Police officers. They are not just my heroes, but also some of the closest friends I've made during my time here. The post-Jan. 6 memorial wall we helped create in the Cannon Tunnel only provided a small glimpse into the gratitude each Member and staff has for each of them.

During my tenure on House Administration, we also had an important oversight role to play in regards to federal elections. We fought against several partisan power grabs, including legislation that would nationalize our elections like the "For the People Act," and we also successfully stopped Speaker NANCY PELOSI and House Democrats from unseating Congresswoman MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS in Iowa's 2nd Congressional District and instead seating their preferred candidate, Democrat Rita Hart. I'd like to thank my House Administration staff and the entire House Republican Conference for working together to raise public awareness on this issue and ultimately stopping this blatant attempt to thwart the will of Iowa voters.

I'd also like to thank every state and local election administrator and key stakeholder who participated in our Faith in Elections Project; a 2 year, 3 pronged strategy to restore faith and confidence in our elections system at a time when voters most needed it. Thanks to our meetings where you provided me with input, I was able to introduce comprehensive legislation, the American Confidence in Elections Act, that will protect States' primary authority over elections while also providing States with key election integrity tools. I look forward to watching this advance next Congress and one day be signed into law.

Through my work on the Committee on House Administration, I've had the opportunity to build relationships across this institution—whether it was from meeting the behind-the-scenes public servants in the Clerk's Office to the volunteers and leadership at the Botanic Garden, to the construction workers over the last 3 phases of the Cannon House Office Building's renovation. I want to thank every person who help keep this House running, and I know that there is more we can do to sup-

port them. That's why I've taken what I've learned from my House Administration role and paired it with 4 years of work on the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress to outline a Roadmap with reforms that the next Congress should make to strengthen this institution, support the Members and staff, and ultimately better serve the American people.

While I will no longer be a Member come January, I will continue to be this institution's biggest advocate and know that the great work will continue because of all of them. They'll also have new support from staff who we've trained up through our new Level Up program, and the incoming Members who I've been able to welcome over the past two New Member Orientations hosted by the Committee on House Administration.

And finally, I'd like to thank my best friend and wife Shannon, and our three children Toryn, Clark and Griffin, for going on this journey with me all these years. I look forward to spending even more time with my family.

Congress, it's been an honor.

COMMENDING JOAN W. SACAROB
AND DONALD A. SACAROB

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the lifetime of service that Joan and Donald Sacarob have dedicated to Hadassah, a non-profit organization that seeks to expand women's rights and their leadership capacity. Hadassah embodies Jewish values to advance health equity, fight antisemitism, and equip women with the tools they need to make a difference in their communities.

Hadassah's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and youth development opportunities to enhance the lives of those in their community. Their work extends to the Hadassah Medical Organization to research cutting-edge medical procedures and provide first-rate care for those who need it. To these ends, they connect and empower Jewish women to lead by example.

The organization traces its origins back to the extraordinary public service of Henrietta Szold, who dedicated her life to ameliorating disease and starvation that were disproportionately affecting Jewish people. She founded youth villages to house Jewish children who fled their homelands as Nazi troops invaded Eastern Europe. Her legacy of care has rippled outward for over a century. Hadassah was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize nomination for their work to offer world-class medical care to all, regardless of race, ethnicity, or national origin, following their commitment to building a bridge to peace through medicine.

For 50 consecutive years, Joan Sacarob has served Hadassah with national portfolios focused on advocacy and philanthropy. Her husband Donald has served as the National Associate Vice President of Hadassah, the men's branch of the organization. For decades, these 2 hardworking philanthropists and activists have committed themselves to the betterment of the Northern Virginia and Greater Washington Metropolitan Area Jewish communities.

Joan was a pivotal figure in the development of the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, and her friends and colleagues recognize her as a passionate and resilient force. She served for 20 years on the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington and was honored for her distinguished service on the board in 2006. Her advocacy work has not dwindled since then, and I am honored to know such a fierce advocate for equity.

Joan and Donald have earned the respect and recognition of their peers. Their work has been instrumental in advancing the causes of health equity, women's leadership, and access to much needed resources. I wish them every success and comfort as they continue their work.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Joan and Donald Sacarob for their exceptional dedication and leadership within our community.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE
HONORABLE CLARENCE "BUD"
ALBRIGHT

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 22, 2022

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the service of the Honorable Clarence "Bud" Albright, who served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the United States Nuclear Industry Council (USNIC) for the past 3 years. Previously, Bud served as the organization's board chair, and he will be retiring at the end of this year.

As a native of Rock Hill, South Carolina, Bud has had a successful and impressive career, giving him broad and extensive experience in the energy sector. Prior to his work in energy issues, Bud served in several senior government roles. In the energy field, Bud was Vice President of Federal Affairs for Texas-based Reliant Energy in the Washington, D.C. office. He also served as the former Under Secretary of Energy, after being appointed by President Bush and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Bud is a proud husband, father, son, and friend, and his tremendous work has not only made the State of South Carolina proud, but the entire country. His tireless commitment to public service and providing Americans with reliable energy throughout his career is inspirational. I am reminded of the verse Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord and not for human masters." Bud has a servant's heart which was evident in the work he produced and relationships he built. I am thankful for Bud's friendship and the resource that he has been to me in Congress.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to serve the Third District of South Carolina and to honor those who have dedicated their life to public service, like Bud. I wish Bud and his family many more years of health and happiness.